

In my country, we recently celebrated the 75th anniversary of women's suffrage. It took 150 years after the signing of our Declaration of Independence for women to win the right to vote. It took 72 years of organized struggle on the part of many courageous women and men.

It was one of America's most divisive philosophical wars. But it was also a bloodless war. Suffrage was achieved without a shot fired.

We have also been reminded, in V-J Day observance last weekend, of the good that comes when men and women join together to combat the forces of tyranny and build a better world.

We have seen peace prevail in most places for a half century. We have avoided another world war.

But we have not solved older, deeply-rooted problems that continue to diminish the potential of half the world's population.

Now it is time to act on behalf of women everywhere.

If we take bold steps to better the lives of women, we will be taking bold steps to better the lives of children and families too. Families rely on mothers and wives for emotional support and care; families rely on women for labor in the home; and increasingly, families rely on women for income needed to raise healthy children and care for other relatives.

As long as discrimination and inequities remain so commonplace around the world—as long as girls and women are valued less, fed less, fed last, overworked, underpaid, not schooled and subjected to violence in and out of their homes—the potential of the human family to create a peaceful, prosperous world will not be realized.

Let this conference be our—and the world's—call to action.

And let us heed the call so that we can create a world in which every woman is treated with respect and dignity, every boy and girl is loved and cared for equally, and every family has the hope of a strong and stable future.

Thank you very much.

God's blessings on you, your work and all who will benefit from it.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUNN of Oregon). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each:

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. MCKEON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCKEON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. RIGGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HUTCHINSON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. HOEKSTRA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HOEKSTRA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

DOUBLE STANDARD APPLIED TO PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, an unfortunate incident occurred this past week. A distinguished Member of the other body resigned from the Congress of the United States because of alleged sexual improprieties and advances toward members of the staff of the Congress of the United States. I think people who watched what happened in the news media over the past year to 2 years agree that that was the right thing for him to do, to resign.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things that concerns me is that other cases of this kind have occurred in the past and nothing has been done about them. For instance, a former Governor of the State of Arkansas allegedly had a young State employee come up to his hotel room and not only made sexual advances, but they were very, very overt sexual advances. That gentleman has now advanced to a very high office in this land, and there has been almost no investigation. The lady in question has asked that her case be taken to court and because of this gentleman's position in our Government, she cannot even get a court case. That is not the only instance that happened with this individual.

So I would just like to say to my friends in the media, and I think they probably know to whom I am referring, Mr. PACKWOOD resigned, he should have resigned, he did something that should not have been done, obviously. But why, I ask, are we excusing or ignoring similar behavior?

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is reminded not to make re-

marks about particular Members of the Senate.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I stand corrected. But I would just like to ask the question, why is there this double standard? This double standard should not occur. People who are held to a high standard in one body of this government should not be singled out when people in other areas of our Government are able to get away with these things, or at least not be allowed, the people who accuse them, to have their day in court or have hearings on the alleged improprieties.

The media in this country in my opinion should show some balance. No one, regardless of what party they serve, no one, regardless of what branch of government they serve, should be allowed to get away with these alleged sexual improprieties, and yet it is obvious to me, and I think to other Members of this body, that a double standard does exist.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is also reminded that he is not to make personal references to the President as well.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I did not make any reference to the President, I do not believe, did I?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Any obvious references to the person are not to be made.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I would ask for you to read the RECORD then and show me the obvious reference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman made references that could only apply to the President.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I think that if you check, you would find that I did not make any direct reference to the President.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will check the RECORD.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Be that as it may, Mr. Speaker, I think there is a double standard and it should be reviewed.

DISCRETIONARY SPENDING REDUCTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I wonder how many Americans really think that the Members of this body will have the gumption to balance the budget 7 years from now. Mr. Speaker, I wonder how many Members of this Chamber think that we are really going to make the hard cuts that are going to be required that are called upon by the budget resolution that we passed earlier this year to balance the budget 7 years from now.

I want to talk about the bill that I have just introduced, H.R. 2295, that will help assure that we reach that balanced budget by the year 2002. Mr. Speaker, the vacation is over, it is